

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-01 /075 W

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R 281802Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7693

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, UK, PINT

SUBJECT: JACK JONES AND EC MEMBERSHIP

BEGIN SUMMARY - JACK JONES, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE  
TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS UNION, INDICATED -- DURING  
A CALL MADE BY THE CHARGE -- THAT HE BELIEVES THAT THE  
REFERENDUM VOTE "COULD GO EITHER WAY.. HE MADE IT CLEAR  
THAT HE REMAINS OPPOSED TO THE EC, BUT ALSO THAT HE IS  
SOME DISTANCE -- ALBEIT VERY SHORT -- FROM THE MOST  
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EXTREME ANTI-MARKET POSITION. THIS, OF COURSE, HAS NOT

PREVENTED HIM FROM BECOMING ONE OF THE TITULAR LEADERS OF ONE OF THE SEVERAL ANTI-MARKET GROUPS (THE "GET BRITAIN OUT" COMMITTEE) BUT IT DOES ALLOW HIM AN OPTION IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT HE ULTIMATELY WISHES TO MODERATE HIS POSITION. THE TUC INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE, WHICH HE CHAIRS, WILL MEET TO CONSIDER THE REFERENDUM, BUT A TUC OFFICIAL DENIED PRESS SPECULATION THAT THE TUC HAS ALREADY PLANNED AN ANTI-MARKET CAMPAIGN OR THAT IT WILL CALL A SPECIAL CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY

1. DURING HIS CONVERSATION, JONES SAID, "WE SHALL HAVE TO SEE WHAT THE FINAL TERMS ARE WHEN THE RENEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETED." HE WAS ALSO QUICK TO ADD THAT HE DID NOT FORESEE THE SORT OF OVERWHELMING CHANGES WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ORDER FOR HIM TO ACCEPT THE RESULTS OF SUCH RENEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, THIS VIEW PLACES JONES AT AN INTERESTING DISTANCE FROM ANTI-MARKETEER EXTREMISTS, SUCH AS CLIVE JENKINS, ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL, WHO IS EMERGING AS THE MOST ACTIVE ANTI-MARKETEER WITHIN THE TUC -- AND EVEN FROM HIS GOOD FRIEND, MICHAEL FOOT, WHO REMAINS "CONSTITUTIONALLY" OPPOSED TO THE EC.

2. FOR SOME OBSERVERS, JONES' VIEW REPRESENTS A DISTINCTION WITHOUT A DIFFERENCE FROM THE EXTREMISTS WHO ARE OPPOSED TO THE EC "LOCK, STOCK, AND BARREL." BUT FOR OTHERS, STILL A SMALL MINORITY, IT APPEARS TO LEAVE THE DOOR ALMOST IMPERCEPTABLY OPEN TO A SHIFT IN JONES' POSITION. THE HIGHLY RESPECTED LORD GREENE, ALSO A MEMBER OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL AND CHAIRMAN OF ITS ECONOMIC COMMITTEE, BELIEVES THAT JONES IS TOO CLOSE TO PRIME MINISTER WILSON TO REMAIN ADAMANTLY OPPOSED UNTIL THE END. LORD GREENE, WHO IS A PRO-MARKETEER, BELIEVES THAT IF THE TERMS ARE RIGHT AND WILSON RECOMMENDS ACCEPTANCE, JONES WILL "COME AROUND IN THE END." GREENE ALSO BELIEVES A FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION WILL HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT EFFECT ON SOME OF THE BLOC UNION VOTES WITHIN THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY THOSE NOW IN THE CENTER.

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3. A RELATED FACTOR IS JONES' FERVENT BELIEF IN THE UNITY OF THE LABOR PARTY, TO WHICH HE -- AS AN ARCHITECT OF THE SOCIAL CONTRACT -- CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH IN RECENT YEARS. IN FACT, DURING HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE CHARGE, HE DECLARED THAT "THE PARTY HAS NEVER BEEN AS UNIFIED AS IT IS NOW." HE IS NO DOUBT VERY SENSITIVE ABOUT THE EXTREMELY DIVISIVE CHARACTER OF THE EC MEMBERSHIP ISSUE, AND THIS TOO COULD AFFECT HIS ULTIMATE DECISION.

4. ANOTHER INTERESTING FACTOR IS THAT JONES HAS YET TO JOIN HIS ASSOCIATES ON THE "GET BRITAIN OUT" COMMITTEE IN ANY MAJOR ADDRESS ON THE ISSUE. IN CONTRAST, CLIVE JENKINS HAS LEAPT INTO THE ANTI-MARKET WATERS WITH A HEARTY ENTHUSIASM. HE HAS ALREADY DEBATED SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES ON TV AND WILL JOIN ENOCH POWELL AT A MAJOR ANTI-MARKET MEETING SCHEDULED THIS SATURDAY (FEB. 1) FOR FOLKESTONE. JENKINS IS CONFIDENT THAT JONES WILL SOON BEGIN TO CAMPAIGN TOO, BUT IS NOT AWARE OF ANY SPECIFIC PLANS IN THIS REGARD.

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USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-01 /075 W

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R 281802Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7694  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
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5. IN THE MEANWHILE, THE TUC INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE, WHICH JONES CHAIRS, IS PLANNING TO DISCUSS THE EC REFERENDUM AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON FEBRUARY 3 AND WILL MEET FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN ON FEBRUARY 4 TO DISCUSS SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING EC RENEGOTIATION. WHILE SOME NEWSPAPERS ARE SUGGESTING THAT THE T/UC IS ALREADY PLANNING ITS ANTI-MARKET CAMPAIGN AS WELL AS A SPECIAL CONFERENCE, THIS IS DENIED BY TUC OFFICIALS. ONE TUC OFFICIAL SAID THAT "THE SITUATION IS IN FLUX"

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AND THAT "NOTHING HAS BEEN DECIDED." INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, JONES DOUBTS THAT A SPECIAL TUC CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD, UNLESS THERE IS A STRONG CALL BY TUC AFFILIATES, AND CLIVE JENKINS HAS ALSO TOLD US HE SEES NO POINT IN HOLDING A SPECIAL TUC CONFERENCE ON THE EC. IN JENKINS' VIEW, THE TUC CONGRESS IN SEPTEMBER HAS ALREADY REAFFIRMED ITS CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO THE COMMUNITY AND IS PLEDGED TO OBTAIN AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH ANTI- AND PRO-MARKETEERS TO VOICE THEIR VIEWS IN THE MEDIA AND IN OTHER WAYS DURING THE RUN-UP TO THE REFERENDUM. IN HIS VIEW, THE SPECIAL LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE IS THE BEST FORUM WHERE ALL SECTORS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT CAN THRASH OUT THEIR VIEWS.

6. COMMENT: THERE IS NOTHING TO SUGGEST THAT JONES IS NOW READY FOR ANY CONVERSION ON THE EC ISSUE. HE OPPOSES THE EC FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL REASONS. HE DOWNPLAYS THE DANGER WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM A BRITISH DEPARTURE AND BELIEVES THAT IF BRITAIN WERE TO LEAVE THE MARKET, IT WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY -- FOR EXAMPLE -- BY REJOINING EFTA. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT, EVEN IN HIS OPPOSITION, HE HAS NOT YET IRREVOCABLY CROSSED THE LINE OF NO RETURN.

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## Message Attributes

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